

Arizona News Release

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Press Release Announcement - January 27 2006 - For Immediate Release

ARIZONA CATTLE INVENTORY UP 3 PERCENT

Phoenix, Arizona – Arizona's all cattle inventory as of January 1, 2006, is estimated at 940,000 head, 3 percent higher than last January's inventory. The beef cow inventory increased by 15,000 head to 190,000 head, but the milk cow inventory held steady from a year ago at 165,000 head. Other classes of cattle inventory include steers at 340,000 head, up 10,000; milk replacement heifers at 44,000 head, up 2,000; beef replacement heifers at 30,000 head, up 2,000; and calves at 130,000 head, up 5,000 from a year ago.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. Beef cows, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Milk cows, at 9.06 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2006, and the change from January 1, 2005, are as follows:

All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, up 2 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.90

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million, up 4 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.28 million, up 4 percent. Other heifers, 9.80 million, up slightly. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.9 million, up 3 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.26 million, up 2 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.6 million, up 2 percent.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, were estimated at 14.1 million, up 3 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, up 2 percent.

The 2005 calf crop was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2004.

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